

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method for performing automated distribution and billing, comprising:

providing, at a server, a negotiation forum between a delivery entity and a receiver entity, wherein the delivery entity corresponds to a developer of an application, wherein the receiver entity corresponds to a distributor of the application, wherein the negotiation forum provides a virtual negotiation of billing-related metadata between the delivery entity and the receiver entity for the application, wherein at least a portion of the billing-related metadata relates to how to account for distribution of the application by the receiver entity to a wireless device operating on a network of the receiver entity and corresponding to a subscriber;

receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed billing-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity or the receiver entity;

receiving an acceptance of the proposed billing-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to billing-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity;

receiving indication that a transaction involving the application, the wireless device and the receiver entity has occurred; and

transmitting billing information only to the receiver entity to account for the transaction, wherein the billing information is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata, wherein the billing information includes a developer payment fee and transaction data corresponding to the transaction, wherein the transaction data is used by the receiver entity to derive an application download event for billing the subscriber.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction includes information about the application being downloaded to a wireless device.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the negotiation forum uses a secure extranet accessible by the delivery entity and receiver entity.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata includes a price to charge the wireless device for the application.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiver entity comprises a carrier.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein in the delivery entity comprises a developer.

7. (Previously presented) A system for performing automated distribution and billing, comprising:

means for providing a negotiation forum between a delivery entity and a receiver entity, wherein the delivery entity corresponds to a developer of an application, wherein the receiver entity corresponds to a distributor of the application, wherein the negotiation forum provides a virtual negotiation of billing-related metadata between the delivery entity and the receiver entity for the application, wherein at least a portion of the billing-related metadata relates to how to account for distribution of the application by the receiver entity to a wireless device operating on a network of the receiver entity and corresponding to a subscriber;

means for receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed billing-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity or the receiver entity;

means for receiving an acceptance of the proposed billing-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to billing-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity;

means for receiving indication that a transaction involving the application, the wireless device and the receiver entity has occurred; and

means for transmitting billing information only to the receiver entity to account for the transaction, wherein the billing information is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata, wherein the billing information includes a developer payment fee and transaction data corresponding to the transaction, wherein the transaction data is used by the receiver entity to derive an application download event for billing the subscriber.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the transaction includes information about the application being downloaded to a wireless device.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the negotiation forum uses a secure extranet accessible by the delivery entity and receiver entity.

10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata includes a price to charge the wireless device for the application.

11. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions, which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform operations, the instructions comprising:

at least one instruction for providing a negotiation forum between a delivery entity and a receiver entity, wherein the delivery entity corresponds to a developer of an application, wherein the receiver entity corresponds to a distributor of the application, wherein the negotiation forum provides a virtual negotiation of billing-related metadata between the delivery entity and the receiver entity for the application, wherein at least a portion of the billing-related metadata relates to how to account for distribution of the application by the receiver entity to a wireless device operating on a network of the receiver entity and corresponding to a subscriber;

at least one instruction for receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed billing-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity or the receiver entity;

at least one instruction for receiving an acceptance of the proposed billing-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to billing-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity;

at least one instruction for receiving indication that a transaction involving the application, the wireless device and the receiver entity has occurred; and

at least one instruction for transmitting billing information only to the receiver entity to account for the transaction, wherein the billing information is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata, wherein the billing information includes a developer payment fee and transaction data corresponding to the transaction, wherein the transaction data is used by the receiver entity to derive an application download event for billing the subscriber.

12. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, wherein the transaction includes information about the application being downloaded to a wireless device.

13. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, wherein the negotiation forum uses a secure extranet accessible by the delivery and receiver entity.

14. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata includes a price to charge the wireless device for the application.

[[5]] 15. (Currently amended) An automated distribution and billing system, comprising:

an extranet accessible by multiple carriers and multiple developers, wherein each developer corresponds to a creator of an application, wherein each carrier corresponds to a distributor of applications, wherein the extranet defines a negotiation forum that enables a virtual negotiation of billing-related metadata between a respective carrier and a respective developer for a respective application, wherein at least a portion of the billing-related metadata relates to how to account for distribution of the respective application by the respective carrier to a wireless device operating on a network of the respective carrier and corresponding to a subscriber;

a server having a central repository that stores agreed-to billing-related metadata corresponding to the respective application, the respective carrier and the respective developer, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata comprises respective billing-related metadata accepted by both the respective carrier and the respective developer during the virtual negotiation; and

a transaction server for receiving transaction data corresponding to a downloading of the respective application from the respective carrier to the wireless device, and, using the corresponding agreed-to billing-related metadata, for determining billing information associated with the downloading of the application and for transmitting the billing information only to the carrier to account for the distribution of the application by the carrier to the wireless device,

wherein the billing information includes a developer payment fee and a portion of the transaction data used by the carrier to derive an application download event for billing the subscriber.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the transaction server is further operable to send the billing information to a carrier.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the transaction server is further operable to send the billing information to a developer.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the transaction data further corresponds to downloading of the respective application to a wireless device.

19. (Previously presented) A system for distributing applications over a wireless network, comprising:

a centralized processor for performing administrative functions associated with downloading an application to a wireless device, wherein the centralized processor comprises agreed-to billing-related metadata corresponding to the application, a developer of the application and a carrier accepted by both the carrier and the developer during a virtual negotiation, and wherein at least a portion of the agreed-to billing-related metadata relates to how to account for distribution of the application by the carrier to a respective wireless device operating on a network of the carrier and corresponding to a subscriber;

a local processor, connected to the centralized processor, for receiving catalog data and the application from the centralized processor, for transmitting the catalog data and the application to the wireless device, and for recording transaction data associated with the transmission of the application to the wireless device, wherein the catalog data includes a correspondence between the application and the agreed-to billing-related metadata; and

a transaction server, connected to the centralized processor and the local processor, for receiving the agreed-to billing-related metadata from the centralized processor, for receiving the transaction data from the local processor, and for processing the agreed-to billing-related metadata and the transaction data to generate billing information for transmission only to the carrier to account for the distribution of the application by the carrier to the wireless device,

wherein the billing information includes a developer payment fee and a portion of the transaction data used by the carrier to derive an application download event for billing the subscriber.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata further comprises a payment amount to pay the delivery entity for each distribution of the application.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising configuring a catalog for the receiver entity including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to billing-related metadata, and sending the catalog to an application download server of the receiver entity to enable distribution of the application to the wireless device.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed usage-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity and the receiver entity, wherein at least a portion of the proposed usage-related metadata relates to usage limitations of the application on the device operable on the network of the receiver entity;

receiving an acceptance of the proposed usage-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to usage-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity; and

configuring a catalog to enable distribution of the application, wherein configuring comprises including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to usage-related metadata such that the transaction includes the agreed-to usage-related metadata.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata further comprises a payment amount to pay the delivery entity for each distribution of the application.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, further comprising means for configuring a catalog for the receiver entity including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to billing-related metadata, and means for sending the catalog to an

application download server of the receiver entity to enable distribution of the application to the wireless device.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, further comprising:

means for receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed usage-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity and the receiver entity, wherein at least a portion of the proposed usage-related metadata relates to usage limitations of the application on the device operable on the network of the receiver entity;

means for receiving an acceptance of the proposed usage-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to usage-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity; and

means for configuring a catalog to enable distribution of the application, wherein the means for configuring further comprises configuring to include the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to usage-related metadata such that the transaction includes the agreed-to usage-related metadata.

26. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata further comprises a payment amount to pay the delivery entity for each distribution of the application.

27. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, further comprising at least one instruction for configuring a catalog for the receiver entity including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to billing-related metadata, and at least one instruction for sending the catalog to an application download server of the receiver entity to enable distribution of the application to the wireless device.

28. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, further comprising:

at least one instruction for receiving, at the negotiation forum, at least one proposed usage-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity and the receiver entity, wherein at least a portion of the proposed usage-related metadata relates

to usage limitations of the application on the device operable on the network of the receiver entity;

at least one instruction for receiving an acceptance of the proposed usage-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to usage-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity; and

at least one instruction for configuring a catalog to enable distribution of the application, wherein the at least one instruction for configuring further comprises at least one instruction for including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to usage-related metadata such that the transaction includes the agreed-to usage-related metadata.

29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata includes a price to charge the wireless device for the respective application.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the agreed-to billing-related metadata further comprises a payment amount to pay the respective developer for each distribution of the respective application.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the central repository further comprises a catalog including the respective application and including the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to billing-related metadata, wherein the catalog is transmittable to a download server of the respective carrier to enable distribution of the respective application to the wireless device.

32. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the negotiation forum is further operable to receive at least one proposed usage-related metadata associated with the application from at least one of the delivery entity and the receiver entity, wherein at least a portion of the proposed usage-related metadata relates to usage limitations of the application on the device operable on the network of the receiver entity, wherein the negotiation forum is further operable to receive an acceptance of the proposed usage-related metadata by the delivery entity and the receiver entity, thereby defining agreed-to usage-related metadata corresponding to the application, the delivery entity and the receiver entity, and wherein the central repository further comprises a catalog to enable distribution of the application, wherein the catalog includes

the correspondence between the application and the agreed-to usage-related metadata such that the transaction includes the agreed-to usage-related metadata.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

forwarding a developer payment to the delivery entity based on the transaction data, wherein the developer payment is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata;

wherein transmitting billing information to the receiver entity further includes transmitting an enablement fee corresponding to a fee for providing the negotiation forum, for providing the billing information, and for providing the developer payment.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising determining, prior to transmitting billing information, that the transaction includes the wireless device billing event based on the received transaction data and previously-stored application-related information for the wireless device.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, further comprising:

means for forwarding a developer payment to the delivery entity based on the transaction data, wherein the developer payment is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata;

wherein the means for transmitting billing information to the receiver entity further includes means for transmitting an enablement fee, wherein the enablement fee corresponds to a fee for providing the negotiation forum, for providing the billing information, and for providing the developer payment.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for determining, prior to transmitting billing information, that the transaction includes the wireless device billing event based on the received transaction data and previously-stored application-related information for the wireless device.

37. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 11, further comprising:

at least one instruction for forwarding a developer payment to the delivery entity based on the transaction data, wherein the developer payment is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata;

wherein the at least one instruction for transmitting billing information to the receiver entity further includes at least one instruction for transmitting an enablement fee, wherein the enablement fee corresponds to a fee for providing the negotiation forum, for providing the billing information, and for providing the developer payment.

38. (Previously presented) The computer readable means of claim 37, further comprising at least one instruction for determining, prior to transmitting billing information, that the transaction includes the wireless device billing event based on the received transaction data and previously-stored application-related information for the wireless device.

39. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the transaction server is further operable to:

forward a developer payment to the developer based on the transaction data, wherein the developer payment is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata;

wherein the billing information further includes an enablement fee, wherein the enablement fee corresponds to a fee for providing the negotiation forum, for providing the billing information, and for providing the developer payment.

40. (Previously presented) The system of claim 39, wherein the transaction server is further operable to determine, prior to transmitting the billing information, that the transaction data includes the wireless device billing event based on comparing the transaction data with previously-stored application-related information for the wireless device.

41. (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the transaction server is further operable to:

forward a developer payment to the developer based on the transaction data, wherein the developer payment is based on the agreed-to billing-related metadata;

wherein the billing information further includes an enablement fee, wherein the enablement fee corresponds to a fee for providing the negotiation forum, for providing the billing information, and for providing the developer payment.

42. (Previously presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the transaction server is further operable to determine, prior to generating the billing information, that the transaction data includes the wireless device billing event based on comparing the transaction data with previously-stored application-related information for the wireless device.